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6 **IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**
7 **FOR THE DISTRICT OF ARIZONA**
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9 Bonnie Creech,

10 Plaintiff,

11 v.

12 Barrett Financial Group LLC, et al.,

13 Defendants.

14 No. CV-22-00871-PHX-SMB

15 **ORDER**

16 This matter having recently come before this Court, the parties are advised of the
17 following preliminary policies and procedures that will govern these proceedings, and are
18 ordered as follows.

19 **Governing Rules**

20 Both counsel and *pro se* litigants must abide by the Local Rules of Civil Procedure
21 (“LRCiv” or “Local Rules”), Rules of Practice of the U.S. District Court for the District
22 of Arizona, and the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

23 **Case Management Conference**

24 The Court will schedule a case management conference in accordance with Rule
25 16 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure once Defendants have been served or have
26 appeared in the actions. As will be directed in the order setting the conference, the
27 parties will be required to engage in a Rule 26(f) meeting and submit a Joint Rule 26(f)
28 Case Management Report. Outstanding motions or requests to continue the Case

1 Management Conference will not excuse the requirement to hold a Rule 26(f) meeting or
2 submit the joint filing.

3 The Court will issue a Case Management Order following the date of the
4 scheduled conference. The Order will reflect the parties' input and the Court's
5 considered assessment of the time necessary to complete discovery and all pretrial
6 submissions, and will set forth additional policies and procedures that will apply in this
7 case.

8 **Rule 12 Motions**

9 Any motion made pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 12 is discouraged if
10 the challenged defect in the pleading can be cured by filing an amended pleading. In
11 accordance with LRCiv 12.1(c), the Court therefore requires: (1) *conferral* – the movant
12 must confer with the opposing party prior to filing a motion to dismiss for failure to state
13 a claim or counterclaim pursuant to Rule 12(b)(6), or a motion for judgment on the
14 pleadings on a claim or counterclaim pursuant to Rule 12(c), to determine whether such
15 motion can be avoided; and (2) *certification* – the movant must attach a certificate of
16 conferral, certifying that it notified the opposing party of the issues asserted in its motion
17 (in person, by telephone, or in writing), and that the parties conferred but were unable to
18 agree that the pleading was curable in any part by a permissible amendment offered by
19 the pleading party. Any motion lacking an attached compliant certificate may be
20 summarily stricken by the Court.

21 **Amendment to the Pleadings**

22 Parties shall endeavor not to oppose motions to amend that are filed prior to any
23 Rule 16 Case Management Conference or the deadline set forth by any Rule 16 Case
24 Management Order. Any motion for leave to amend or notice of amendment must be
25 filed in accordance with Rule 15.1 of the Local Rules of Civil Procedure. Any motion or
26 notice that does not comply with the local and federal rules may be stricken by the Court.

27 **Protective Orders**

28 As a general practice, this Court does not approve or adopt blanket, umbrella

1 protective orders or confidentiality agreements, even when stipulated to by the parties.
2 Further, the fact that the parties have designated materials or information as confidential
3 pursuant to an agreement or stipulation does not mean that the Court will order that the
4 filings containing such information be placed under seal. In the event discovery
5 mandates disclosure of specific, harmful confidential material, the Court will entertain a
6 request for a protective order at that time if it is tailored to protect the particular interests
7 at hand in accordance with Rule 26(c) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. Any party
8 wishing to seal a record or document and shield it from public view must prove why the
9 interest in secrecy outweighs the presumption of public access to judicial records and
10 documents.

11 **Corporate Statement**

12 If applicable, full compliance with Rule 7.1 of the Federal Rules of Civil
13 Procedure is required. A Corporate Disclosure Statement form is available on the District
14 Court's Website.

15 **Filings**

16 All electronic filings must be filed in a PDF text searchable format in accordance
17 with LRCiv 7.1(c). A paper copy of any document filed exceeding ten (10) pages in
18 length must be submitted to chambers. Documents which are too large for stapling must
19 be submitted in a three-ring binder. Electronic copies of proposed orders must be
20 emailed in Microsoft Word format to Brnovich_Chambers@azd.uscourts.gov.

21 **Communications with the Court**

22 As a general matter, all communications with the Court regarding any case must
23 be made on the record. Telephone calls regarding routine administrative matters in civil
24 cases may be directed to chambers at (602) 322-7540. No member of chambers staff will
25 provide the parties with legal advice concerning any matter.

26 Any inquiry regarding the status of any motion or other matter that has been under
27 advisement for more than one hundred and eighty (180) days must be filed in the manner
28 set forth in LRCiv 7.2(n).

Emergencies and Expedited Consideration

Any party desiring expedited consideration of a motion or other matter pending before the Court may make such a request by filing a separate *Notice for Expedited Consideration* which sets forth the grounds warranting accelerated resolution of the related filing and identifies the dates of the imminent events pertinent to the request. Such requests should not be made as a matter of course nor should be made by merely noting it below the title of the related filing. Requests presented to the Court in this manner will not be considered.

Oral Arguments and Evidentiary Hearings

This Court does not have a preset schedule for setting oral arguments and evidentiary hearings. The Court will schedule oral arguments and evidentiary hearings when warranted and advise the parties accordingly. Any party desiring oral argument may request it by noting it below the title of the related filing, *see* LRCiv 7.2(f); such request should be made in instances where it would assist the resolution of the motion, and not be made merely as a matter of course. Any party desiring an evidentiary hearing should request it in the body of its filing. Separate motions or requests for oral argument or evidentiary hearings are subject to being stricken or may be modified on the docket to a notice.

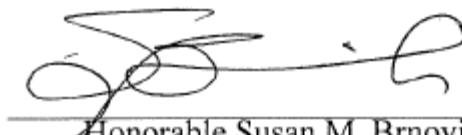
Noncompliance

The parties are specifically admonished that failure to prosecute, to comply with court orders, or to comply with the local and federal rules may result in dismissal of all or part of this case, default, imposition of sanctions, or summary disposition of matters pending before the Court. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 41; LRCiv 7.2 (“[i]f a motion does not conform in all substantial respects with the requirements of [the Local Rules], or if the opposing party does not serve and file the required answering memoranda... such noncompliance may be deemed a consent to the denial or granting of the motion and the Court may dispose of the motion summarily”).

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that Plaintiff(s) must promptly serve a copy of

1 this Order on Defendant(s) and file notice of service with the Clerk of Court.

2 Dated this 23rd day of May, 2022.

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6 Honorable Susan M. Brnovich
7 United States District Judge
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